



County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors



SUPERVISOR JACK H. BEAN

Term: 1918 -1928
District: Second
Date of Birth: ~1864
Death: May 30, 1931

Jack H. (J.H.) Bean was first elected to the Board of Supervisor in 1918 and served consecutive terms until 1928, when he was defeated by Frank Shaw.

Bean was born in Franklin County, N.Y., in 1864. He was educated in the public schools of New York and came to Los Angeles in 1895. He learned the carpentry trade from his father, Levi Bean, and followed in his footsteps. Bean built a reputation as a builder and contractor, and became one of the most well-known men in Los Angeles County. During this time, he married his second wife, Alice Denton. He had two sons from a previous marriage, Clarence and Alton.

In 1912 he was elected to the Los Angeles City Board of Education and served in that capacity until 1918, when he was elected to the Board of Supervisors, representing the Second District.

In his role as county supervisor, he oversaw the general supervision of departments, building operations, charities and corrections, the county hospital, Olive View Sanitarium, health department, county cemetery, outdoor relief, mechanical department and public welfare committees.

Bean also played an integral role purchasing lands needed for the building of today's County offices. His training and experience prepared him well for what was to come. Largely through his efforts, the block on which the Hall of Records was built was acquired without the necessity of eminent domain. Thousands of dollars of taxpayers money were saved as a result of his involvement.

Some believe Bean's outstanding achievement as a member of the Board of Supervisors was his work overseeing the construction of the Hall of Justice. He also took an active part in the plans for building the county hospital, and is credited as being one of the original sponsors of the project.

Bean died of a heart attack on May 30, 1931.

Source: Historical and Biographical Record of Southern California; Los Angeles County Records; Los Angeles Time Obituary, May 31, 1931.